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25 November 1959

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Interview with Ruth Lawson

1. In the absence of General Cabell, Bob Amory agreed to see Miss Lawson on Friday, 20 November 1959, from 5:30 P.M. to about 6:30. They had many friends in common in the college world, particularly Professor Art Sutherland, professor of Law at Harvard with Amory, who had also served with me in Italy. Miss Lawson was a charming and interesting woman.

2. Miss Lawson expressed regret at not seeing General Cabell because she had met him at some Brookings Institute meetings, she said, and found him solid and highly intelligible on world affairs that were discussed. What she wanted to do was, to use her expression, to "bounce off these people" like Cabell and Amory, some of the ideas she had for a book she is writing on NATO. She is a political scientist. She raised questions as to why, for example, Iceland should have a vote equal to that of any other member of NATO; how America can exert its full power and multiply it, or at least use its power in a so-called "parallel power" system such as would be becoming to one of the two leading powers of the world. Her talk with Mr. Amory was an intellectual discussion of ideas as to why we do one thing and why we don't do another, and what the deterrents to action on the part of NATO are, etc.

3. She appeared to be well acquainted with leaders in the Scandinavian countries and in Western Europe. She spoke admiringly of Spaak, not in his present position but in his previous position when he was freer to express political opinions. She asked that General Cabell be informed of her pleasure in having Mr. Amory listen to her and "bounce back" some of her ideas.

/S/ S. J. Grogan

STANLEY J. GROGAN
Assistant to the Director

cc: DDCI
DD/I

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